

ference we were blessed with the presence of Apostle M. Thatcher. The reports of the Bishops were very encouraging, showing a growth of faith in the hearts of the people, and a corresponding amount of good works. Improvement, both individual and public, seems to be the order of the day and the spirit of the times; as evidenced by the new meeting and school houses in course of erection. The instructions and counsels of the Elders were given in power and demonstration of the Holy Spirit and were suited to the wants and condition of the Saints.

The General Authorities of the Church and the Stake were presented to, and sustained by the Conference. The changes made were: D. F. Lau was sustained as Presiding Priest of the Sodo Springs District, and John Skinner, Sr., as Presiding Priest of the Nounan District; also Samuel Matthews was ordained a High Priest and set apart as Bishop of Montpelier Ward by Apostle M. Thatcher.

T. MINSON, Stake Clerk.

THE BOOK OF MORMON.

AUTOGRAPH LETTER OF ORSON PRATT.

A correspondent who resides in Bingham informs us that, becoming interested in the doctrine embraced in the the faith of the Latter-day Saints about seven or eight years ago, he wrote a letter to the late Apostle Orson Pratt, inquiring about the authenticity of the Book of Mormon. He received the following characteristic reply, the latter being autographic, will probably be read with some interest by any of our readers:

HISTORIAN'S OFFICE, Salt Lake City, May 2nd, 1878.

Mr. W. P. Edwards:

Dear Sir.—Your letter of inquiry, concerning the divinity of the Book of Mormon, and of the religion of the Latter-day Saints, reached me this morning. In reply, I can testify to you with all sincerity and truthfulness, that the Book of Mormon is a divine revelation. It was translated by inspiration, through the aid of the Urim and Thummim. It contains the fulness of the everlasting gospel, as taught by the resurrected Savior to the ancient Nephites, (a remnant of the tribe of Joseph) who inhabited this continent. It was brought to light by an angel from heaven, and confirmed unto chosen witnesses in the same manner. Authority to minister gospel ordinances was also sent down from heaven and conferred on man by the hands of angels. Thus the Latter-day Church of Christ, called the Kingdom of God, was set up on this earth for the last time, that all who will repent and turn unto the Lord, may have the privilege of entering the same, and thus prepare themselves for the great day of His coming.

To believe the truth is one thing; to know the truth is another. We can and ought to believe on good, sound, reasonable and substantial testimony. Such faith or belief ought to lead us to good works, to reformation, to obedience to the gospel ordinances; and thus our faith is made perfect by the right kind of works; and the promised blessings are sure to follow; namely: Remission of sins, the baptism of the Holy Ghost, and a knowledge of the truth. To obtain faith or belief in the truth, is certainly a very great blessing; but to obtain a knowledge is a still greater blessing. It is your privilege, and the privilege of all mankind, to eventually arrive at a full knowledge of the truth. But faith precedes knowledge. As obedience follows faith, so knowledge follows obedience. Whatsoever is good is of God; whatsoever is evil is from beneath. All the revealed doctrines in the Book of Mormon are good, and if practiced will injure no one, but will make all who obey them better men and better women. He who obeys its heavenly precepts will receive the Holy Ghost; and through the Holy Ghost he may know for himself that God is indeed the great Author of this work. The Holy Ghost will manifest the truth of all things which are of God. And blessed are they who receive this heavenly gift, and continue in the light thereof to the end of their days, for such shall be saved. If you will sincerely and earnestly seek God concerning these impor-

tant matters, He will greatly enlighten your mind. This shall be a witness to you; when you, through humble prayer, believe in that sacred book and desire to obey the same, you shall have great joy; but when you doubt its divinity, and have a feeling to reject it, you shall have great darkness of mind, and sorrow of heart, and the spirit of prayer will leave you.

Yours in kindness, ORSON PRATT, Sen.

OUR CHICAGO LETTER.

CARTER HARRISON JUBILANT—RELIGIO-POLITICAL CONTROVERSY—HARPING ON "MORMONISM"—EFFECTS OF THE INFLUX OF EUROPEAN THINKERS.

CHICAGO, Nov. 10, 1883.

Editor Deseret News:

The November elections passed over with scarcely a perceptible ripple on the surface of Cook County politics. The overwhelming defeat of the Republican candidates occasions a little surprise among disinterested politicians. But the Mayor of Chicago, on whom press and pulpit alike heaped wholesale abuse, is as jubilant as a schoolboy at holiday time. The Methodists begin to think they have hurt the temperance cause by their too earnest endeavors to gain a point. It is foolish to think that principles of sobriety and moderation can be inculcated in the citizens of Chicago, by wanton and uncalled-for abuse of any official or individual. At all events the Mayor is in the majority at present, and no matter what Mr. Arnold says about minorities, Carter Harrison is convinced that the majority is right this time.

We are in the midst of a serious religio-political controversy at present. A Mgr. Capel of England is lecturing on Romanism, and so far he has the whip hand of the Methodists. They tell him that spiritual supremacy as exemplified in his church cannot be otherwise than destructive of political freedom and religious toleration. But the shrewd and learned Romanist retaliates by characterizing Protestantism as an aggregation of petty popes without either learning, religion or tolerance. He must have been reading the proceedings of the recent conference, and he must have laughed in his sleeve at the hog-fed divines of Cincinnati deliberating in solemn convocation on what constitutes a religion. Pope Rust, of Cincinnati, if he will read the writings and hear the lectures of Mgr. Capel may profit a little, and may learn to build instead of to destroy.

The editorial page of to day's Chicago Tribune wears a dreadfully bilious aspect. The first article is devoted to the Roman Capel, and of course means to prove that his religion has not only retarded civilization but almost destroyed it. The second article is devoted to pension sharks. The third is on Mormonism, which is headed about the same as Romanism. He does not say which religion the pension shark is a product of, but I am of the opinion the shark is the product of Methodism. This third article is based on the ravings of some tramp who is the correspondent of a Salt Lake sheet in some little town on the frontier. This correspondent avers that polygamy is rampant in his vicinity, and forthwith invokes the thunders of Methodism. Any person conversant with frontier life knows how little reliance can be placed on reports from the average frontier man who has at ways an iron or two in the fire.

Along the Rio Grande the Greaser is in the way. He is lazy, shiftless, devoid of morals or public spirit; in California the Chinaman is the bane; in the north west Territories the Indian must go; and in Utah the Mormon is the obnoxious being; this is what the frontier correspondent always harps upon. I was in the Black Hills in 1876, and I have seen men shoot bullets through their wagons, and then point out the holes as marks of the Red Devil. I have seen correspondents publish accounts of these awful raids. I was down along the line of Santa Fe Railroad a few years ago, and the same cry was raised about the Greaser, and I now see Eastern journals publishing articles on Mormonism on the reports of these same lying correspondents.

There is an article on Mahone or Mahoney, of Virginia, and the Tribune is fairly wild over the fate of that chieftain. In that unfortunate

country a war of races has commenced, and the Methodist as usual does his best to keep it up. Where moderation and tolerance ought to be preached, the wildest demagogery is practiced. The basest of man's passions is appealed to, and the poor, ignorant African is made to believe that the white man in his vicinity is his sworn enemy. As usual, the correspondents don't help matters by the biased accounts they give. Though bad the Greaser is, race prejudice he is free from, and all through the Spanish Republic the black man is on an equality with the white man, and common sense and religion are their only civil rights statutes.

The ventilation of the Utah "question" is at present most opportune, both for this nation and the people of the Territory. The great influx of European thinkers to this country cannot fail to take cognizance of passing events. It is true Mr. Arnold is here for money and Mgr. Capel for converts; Lord Coleridge came for information and study; Hyacinth for sympathy and money; Oscar Wilde to sow his puerile and cerebral intellectualities. The condition of American society is ripe for great changes. Twenty thousand divorces last year, and foundling asylums prospering like churches. Religion in a state of chaos, teeming with scandals, church enquiries and scepticism. In this state of things Arnold knows he will be heard, and of course he makes money. Capel knows this and sees the moment ripe to catch a few of the heavy weights of this country; Coleridge sees in it a good time to study society in a transition state; Hyacinth hopes perhaps to found a name here, and Oscar, though last not the least, comes for the greatest work of all to build his mind; to practice as it were in a Lyceum, and when he writes his impression of this country look for something no American can produce. One thing is certain that out of all this no Methodist ranter can disgrace the statute books of the U.S. with any penal laws about Mormonism or Romanism or any other isms. And if they constitute themselves inquisitors of religion they evoke not the approbation, but the ridicule and contempt of, not alone Americans, but the whole of modern civilization. D. J. B.

MEANDERINGS OF A MISSIONARY PARTY.

VIEWING THE SIGHTS—STORMY WEATHER AT SEA—DESCRIPTION OF THE "OREGON."

AT SEA, Oct. 31, 1883.

Our party of about 30 Elders and four ladies, which left Salt Lake City Tuesday morning, October 16, 1883, en route for Europe, arrived safely at New York on Sunday morning, October 21. Several of the party stayed at Chicago from 7 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Friday, taking in the Exposition as well as many other interesting sights. The 4.30 train being a fast express, we overtook the rest of the brethren who left Chicago in the morning, at Niagara, where we all spent the day on the banks of that mighty cataract. The suspension bridges, Burning Spring, Whirlpool Rapids, where Captain Webb was drowned in attempting to swim amidst the angry breakers, and many other points of interest aside from the fall itself, go to make it one of the most popular pleasure resorts in America.

Leaving the Falls on Saturday evening we arrived at New York next morning about 8 a.m. Here we spent two days visiting the great suspension bridge joining New York and Brooklyn, Greenwood Cemetery, Prospect and Central Parks, Vanderbilt's residence on 5th Avenue, Patrick's Cathedral, and a great many other places of note and interest.

At the Grand Central Hotel, Broadway, where we took lodgings, kind treatment and the best of accommodations were received, though on our arrival at the hotel the guests and employees of the establishment filled the stairway and entrance, gazing narrowly on our little party of pilgrims, in amazement.

Our tickets were secured via the Guion Line per S. S. Oregon, and on Tuesday morning we were all on board at 9:30 o'clock, ready to set sail at 10:30. Promptly at the time set the stately ship moved gracefully out of the harbor on to a calm and placid sea. The first day was spent very pleasantly, but with the night came a heavy gale, which caused a great number of vacant seats at the break-

fast table next morning. The strong winds and heavy seas have continued nearly ever since, making the voyage very unpleasant. However, we have all recovered from our sea sickness, and feel overjoyed with the expectation of reaching Queenstown to-morrow morning, November 1st, from where I will mail my communication. From Queenstown to Liverpool is a sail of about 13 hours, so we expect to reach the latter place Thursday evening, after a ten days voyage.

The steamship Oregon is one of the most elegant vessels on the Atlantic, as well as one of the largest and fastest. She is entirely new, having only made one trip across the Atlantic from Liverpool to New York, and is now making her first voyage the other way. The length of the present voyage was occasioned by a disabled engine, which could not be repaired at New York, but this fact was kept very quiet until we were out at sea, causing a great deal of dissatisfaction among business men on board. Aside from this disability the Oregon is everything that could be desired, in regard to her elegant and comfortably furnished apartments. Her dimensions are as follows: Length 520 feet, breadth 54 feet, depth 40 ft. 9 inches; horse power 13,000, while her gross measurement is 7,500 tons. She has accommodations for 1,058 passengers and a registered tonnage of 3,529. On the present voyage she has about 350 passengers and 280 of a crew. The captain, James Price, is "a fine old English gentleman," assisted by an able corps of officers and engineers. One of the most striking features of the Oregon is her enormous motive power, having the most powerful engines ever put aboard of any vessel. Another important feature is her incandescent electric lights, there being 62 of these in the saloon (dining hall) alone. I give this short description for the benefit of our people who patronize this line very extensively, and would say to those who anticipate a voyage, you will do well to embark on the Oregon.

Brother Arthur, who is in charge of the company, desired me to express his thanks to those who arranged for our transportation, on the railroads, accommodations at hotels, etc. These have proven a success, as they have secured for us kind treatment and many conveniences all along the route. We all feel to express our heartfelt thanks for the generosity and kindly aid of our friends at home, and go forth with a determination to serve God, and do all we can for the advancement of His work. E. LEAZER EVANS.

METHODS OF CHILD DISCIPLINE.

I heard a story recently which illustrates capitally certain methods of discipline made use of by short-sighted mothers, and the effects of the same upon the morals and manners of children. A little boy had been punished for lying by being confined in his room, tied to a bed, and fed on bread and water for a whole day. The enormity of his offence was therefore deeply impressed upon his mind, much to the satisfaction of his mother. Shortly afterwards the boy entered the parlor where his mother was entertaining a room full of guests, and asked permission in the winning tone that children so early learn is effective to go to a neighbor's.

"No," firmly replied the mother "you cannot go."
"Oh, mother, why can't I go?"
"Because I do not wish it; so still and do not ask me again."
"Yes—but, mother, can't I go?"
By this time the guests began to feel an awkward uneasiness, which the mother was not slow to appreciate. The irrepressible boy kept up his running fire of appeals, varying the whining accent with each request, until the mother finally said: "Well, well, run along, and don't bother so."

Having gained his point, the young diplomatist safely reached the door, and then turned and said: "Oh, mother, what a thundering big lie you told, didn't you?"

We are pleased to learn, by private advices from C. W. Penrose, Esq., editor in chief of the NEWS, at La Junta, that his health continued to improve and he was enjoying his trip. He expected to reach San Francisco in the beginning of next week.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, in German French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. Noyes, 149 Power's Block, Rochester, N. Y.

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NOTICE.

TERRITORY OF UTAH, County of Salt Lake.

In the Probate Court of Salt Lake County, Utah.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF HENRY STRINGAM AND GEORGE STRINGAM, MINORS.

ON THE 16th DAY OF OCTOBER, 1883. Harriet Stringam, who is the Guardian of the property and persons of Henry Stringam and George Stringam, minor children of Briant Stringam, deceased, filed in this Court a petition, setting forth the condition and nature of the Estate of said minors, and asking this Court to make an order directing the next of kin of said wards and all persons interested in the said estate, to appear before the Court at a time and place therein specified, not less than four nor more than eight weeks from the making of such order to show cause why an order should not be granted for the sale of certain real estate.

Now it appearing that said guardian has duly filed her bonds and an inventory of said minor's property having been duly returned to this Court, and every thing appearing regular.

It is hereby ordered that Tuesday, 27th day of November, 1883, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m. of that day at the Court Room of this Court in the County Court House of Salt Lake County, Utah, be and is the time and place for the hearing of said petition, and the next of kin of said wards, and all persons interested in said estate are hereby notified to appear at said time and place and show cause why said prayer of said Guardian should not be granted.

The Real Estate so petitioned to be sold is described as follows, to wit: Part of Lot two (2) in Block twenty (20) Big Field, 5 Acre Plat A, Salt Lake County, Utah, beginning at the Southeast corner of said lot, thence North

thirteen ⁹¹/₁₀₀ rods, thence West forty-six (46) rods, thence South thirteen ⁹¹/₁₀₀ rods, thence East forty-six (46) rods to the place of beginning.

Dated October 15th, 1883. E. SMITH, Probate Judge.

Territory of Utah, COUNTY OF SALT LAKE.

I, D. Bockholt, Clerk of the Probate Court in and for the County of Salt Lake, in the Territory of Utah, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the order of said Court, fixing the time and place for the hearing of petition for order of sale of Real Estate in the matter of the Guardianship of the persons and estates of Henry and George Stringam, minors, as appears of record in my office.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of said Court this 26th day of October, A. D., 1883. D. BOCKHOLT, Probate Clerk.

[SEAL] w41 4t

NOTICE.

In the Probate Court, in and for Salt Lake County, Territory of Utah.

ROBERT D. GORDON, Plaintiff, vs. SARAH A. GORDON, Defendant. SUMMONS.

The People of the Territory of Utah, send Greeting, to Sarah A. Gordon, Defendant:

YOU ARE HEREBY REQUIRED TO APPEAR in an action brought against you by the above named plaintiff in the Probate Court, of the County of Salt Lake, Territory of Utah, and to answer the complaint filed therein within ten days (exclusive of the day of service) after the service on you of summons—if served within this County; or, if served out of this County, but in this district, within twenty days; otherwise within forty days.

The said action is brought to obtain a decree from this court dissolving the marriage contract existing between said plaintiff and you, on the ground of cruel and abusive treatment as set forth in the complaint. And you are hereby notified that if you fail to appear and answer the said complaint as above required, the said plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief prayed for and cost of suit.

Witness, the Hon. E. Smith, Judge, and the Seal of the Probate Court of Salt Lake County, Territory of Utah, this 26th day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty three. D. BOCKHOLT, Clerk.

CHARLES F. BLANDIN, Attorney for Plaintiff. w424t